



Chief Information Officer

Advisory

July 7, 2006

Subject: Interim Data Security Policy

The **Interim Data Security Policy** is effective immediately with this advisory. The policy is available on the Enterprise Information Technology Policies webpage (<http://itsd.mt.gov/policy/itpolicy.asp>).

Recent incidents in the press demonstrate the need for a data security policy. The expectations of the executive and legislative branches are that the Department of Administration (DOA)/Information Technology Services Division (ITSD) proactively address this issue. A commitment has also been made to the Legislative Audit Committee to issue an interim policy.

This interim policy has been developed to immediately address the storage of sensitive data by State of Montana organizations, Enterprise IT entities, contractors, and individual personnel.

- The policy is *interim*, developed with an abbreviated process and limited review to meet an urgent need.
- The policy has a review date of nine months from effective date, at which time the policy will be returned for full consideration and review.
- Deficiencies may be identified during its interim life, and those will be addressed during the follow-on consideration and review.
- The policy has been reviewed by DOA Chief Legal Counsel.

This policy falls under the provisions of the Montana Information Technology Act ([2-17-505, MCA](#)) that states the Department (of Administration) "...shall establish and enforce statewide information technology policies and standards".

Please address any questions or concerns to:

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Advisory Disposition: Retain until policy is reconsidered.

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